# TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

# COMBINED RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS

OF THE

# COUNTY OF HEREFORD,

AND THE

# URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

OF THE

# CITY OF HEREFORD,

# 1897.

By H. VAVASOUR SANDFORD, M.D., &c.

HEREFORD:
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# TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

(Pursuant to the Regulations of the Local Government Board.)

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## HEREFORD URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

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*Population* (*Census* 1891), 20,267.

*Area in Acres*, 4,670.

*Houses*, 4,600.

*Average number of people to a house, about* 5.

*Parishes*, 6.

Hereford,

January 1st, 1898.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,—

In conformity with the regulations of the Local Government Board, I present to you a Report of the Health of the City of Hereford for the year ending December 31st, 1897.

I produce, as usual, Four Tables recording the Births and Deaths which have occurred in the City each year from 1875 up to the present time, viz.:—

## CITY OF HEREFORD.

### TABLE 1.

Table showing total number of Deaths from all causes for the Twenty-three Years ending December 31st, 1897, in the City of Hereford, including those in the Infirmary and Workhouse:—

| | No. of Deaths. | Rate per 1,000. |
|---|---|---|
| 1875..... | 401 | 21·8 |
| 1876..... | 447 | 28·8 |
| 1877..... | 342 | 18·0 |
| 1878..... | 335 | 17·6 |
| 1879..... | 456 | 23·8 |
| 1880..... | 352 | 18·3 |
| 1881..... | 307 | 16·4 |
| 1882..... | 368 | 18·2 |
| 1883..... | 386 | 19·4 |
| 1884..... | 365 | 19·3 |
| 1885..... | 363 | 18·11 |
| 1886..... | 425 | 21·1 |
| 1887..... | 372 | 18·6 |
| 1888..... | 379 | 18·4 |
| 1889..... | 364 | 18·0 |
| 1890..... | 347 | 17·0 |
| 1891..... | 360 | 17·7 |
| 1892..... | 374 | 18·0 |
| 1893..... | 419 | 20·0 |
| 1894..... | 391 | 19·0 |
| 1895..... | 396 | 19·5 |
| 1896..... | 385 | 18·9 |
| 1897..... | 382 | 17·9 |

## CITY OF HEREFORD.

### TABLE 2.

Table showing the number of Births for the Twenty Three Years ending December 31st, 1897, in the City of Hereford, including those in the Workhouse :—

| | No. of Births. | | No. of Births. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1875..... | 406 | 1887..... | 492 |
| 1876..... | 446 | 1888..... | 510 |
| 1877..... | 386 | 1889..... | 499 |
| 1878..... | 480 | 1890..... | 487 |
| 1879 ..... | 555 | 1891..... | 460 |
| 1880..... | 553 | 1892..... | 472 |
| 1881..... | 532 | 1893..... | 507 |
| 1882..... | 500 | 1894..... | 548 |
| 1883..... | 500 | 1895..... | 578 |
| 1884..... | 478 | 1896..... | 548 |
| 1885..... | 521 | 1897..... | 553 |
| 1886..... | 509 | | |

Rate per 1000—26·02

## CITY OF HEREFORD.

### TABLE 3.

Table showing the Number of Deaths of Infants and Children under Five Years from all causes for the Twenty-three years, ending December 31st, 1897, in the City of Hereford, including those in the Workhouse and Infirmary :—

| | No. of Deaths. | Rate per 1,000 |
|---|---|---|
| 1875..... | 119 | 6·0 |
| 1876..... | 166 | 8·3 |
| 1877..... | 85 | 4·1 |
| 1878..... | 100 | 5·0 |
| 1879..... | 158 | 8·0 |
| 1880..... | 114 | 7·0 |
| 1881..... | 89 | 4·7 |
| 1882..... | 133 | 6·4 |
| 1883..... | 89 | 4·0 |
| 1884..... | 100 | 5·0 |
| 1885..... | 92 | 4·1 |
| 1886..... | 149 | 7·4 |
| 1887..... | 82 | 4·1 |
| 1888..... | 110 | 5·1 |
| 1889..... | 130 | 6·0 |
| 1890..... | 105 | 5·6 |
| 1891..... | 87 | 4·2 |
| 1892..... | 100 | 4·3 |
| 1893..... | 119 | 5·0 |
| 1894..... | 135 | 6·6 |
| 1895..... | 118 | 5·5 |
| 1896..... | 104 | 5·1 |
| 1897..... | 102 | 1·3 |

## CITY OF HEREFORD.

### TABLE 4.

Table showing the Number of Deaths in each Year for the Last Twenty-three Years, ending December 31st, 1897, from the Eight Chief Zymotic Diseases, including those in the Workhouse, Infirmary, and Infectious Hospital:—

| Year. | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric, Typhoid or Continued Fever. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | ... | 1 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 25 |
| 1876... | ... | 12 | 75 | ... | 12 | ... | 2 | 9 | 110 |
| 1877... | ... | 6 | 11 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 5 | 24 |
| 1878... | ... | 8 | 4 | 4 | 7 | ... | ... | 15 | 38 |
| 1879... | ... | 5 | ... | 4 | 27 | ... | 2 | 5 | 43 |
| 1880... | ... | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 28 | 56 |
| 1881... | ... | ... | 13 | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | 21 |
| 1882... | ... | 29 | 12 | ... | 9 | ... | ... | 6 | 65 |
| 1883... | ... | 1 | 9 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 21 |
| 1884... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | 2 | 14 | 19 |
| 1885... | ... | 16 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 8 | 26 |
| 1886... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 21 | ... | 2 | 15 | 40 |
| 1887... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 12 | 14 |
| 1888... | 3 | 1 | ... | 4 | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 12 |
| 1889... | ... | 22 | ... | 5 | 3 | ... | 2 | 7 | 39 |
| 1890... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 7 | ... | ... | 2 | 10 |
| 1891... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| 1892... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 6 |
| 1893... | ... | ... | 16 | ... | 8 | ... | 3 | 6 | 33 |
| 1894... | ... | 4 | 3 | 11 | 4 | ... | ... | 6 | 28 |
| 1895... | ... | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | ... | 2 | 6 | 21 |
| 1896... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 13 | ... | ... | 5 | 26 |
| 1897... | ... | 16 | 3 | 3 | ... | ... | 1 | 5 | 28 |

Table 1 gives the total Deaths and rate for each respective year.

Table 2 denotes the total Births and rate for each respective year.

Table 3 sets forth the Deaths of Children and rate for each respective year.

Table 4 furnishes the Deaths from Zymotic Diseases and rate for each respective year.

It is satisfactory to record that the death-rate for the past year—excluding the deaths in the Infirmary and Workhouse—was only 14·5 per 1,000 of the population of the City. (This calculation is based upon an estimated population at the end of 1897 of 21,250.)

During the year 1897 the total number of deaths registered in the City was 382. Of this number 41 occurred in the Infirmary and 32 in the Workhouse. Including the deaths in these institutions, the death-rate is 17·9 per 1,000 only.

The following Table epitomises the ages at which the deaths occurred throughout the City:—

DEATHS IN THE CITY, INCLUDING INFIRMARY AND WORKHOUSE, FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 1897.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deaths under 1 year of age ... | | | | | | | 66 | 102 under 5 years. |
| ,, | over | 1 | ,, | and under | 5 | years | 36 | |
| ,, | ,, | 5 | ,, | ,, | 15 | ,, | 8 | 280 over 5 years. |
| ,, | ,, | 15 | ,, | ,, | 25 | ,, | 21 | |
| ,, | ,, | 25 | ,, | ,, | 65 | ,, | 119 | |
| ,, | ,, | 65 and upwards | | | | | 132 | |
| Total of all ages ... | | | | | | | 382 | |

The Births for this year—including five which took place in the Workhouse—were 553, giving a Birth-rate of 26·02 per 1,000. 301 were girls and 252 boys; and out of the total of 553, 37 were illegitimate.

I also submit two Tables in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Board. The first, or Table A, deals

# TABLE A.

*TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year* 1897, *in the Hereford Urban District, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS FROM CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upw'rds | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membr'nous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Influenza. | Phthsis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) | (h) | (i) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City of Hereford ... | 307 | 65 | 29 | 4 | 12 | 92 | 105 | Under 5 | — | 2 | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 15 | — | 5 | — | 1 | 3 | 18 | — | 4 | 41 | 94 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 4 | 24 | 28 | 20 | 7 | 125 | 213 |
| Infirmary ... ... | 41 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 9 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 16 | 35 |
| Workhouse ... ... | 32 | — | — | 1 | — | 13 | 18 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 5 | 2 | — | 20 | 32 |
| Infectious Hospital ... | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | Under 5 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | 382 | 66 | 36 | 8 | 21 | 119 | 132 | Under 5 | — | 3 | 3 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 15 | — | 5 | — | 1 | 4 | 18 | — | 6 | 44 | 102 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 4 | 30 | 36 | 25 | 19 | 161 | 280 |

# TABLE B.

*TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of Medical Officer of Health during the Year* 1897, *in the Urban Sanitary District of the City of Hereford, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. Census 1891. | Estimated to end of 1897. | Registered Births. | Aged under 5 or over 5. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. 1 Smallpox. | 2 Scarlatina. | 3 Diphtheria. | 4 Membr'nous Croup. | FEVERS. 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid. | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera. | 11 Erysipelas. | 12 | 13 | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. 1 Smallpox | 2 Scarlatina | 3 Diphtheria | 4 Membr'nous Croup | FEVERS. 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera | 11 Erysipelas | 12 | TOTAL. 13 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| City of Hereford ... | 20,267 | 21,250 | 548 | Under 5 | — | 22 | 4 | 4 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | See | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 31 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 39 | 3 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 7 | — | — | — | below. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 51 |
| Infirmary ... ... | — | — | — | Under 5 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 |
| Workhouse ... ... | — | — | 5 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Infectious Hospital ... | — | — | — | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 21 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 18 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | 20,267 | 21,250 | 553 | Under 5 | — | 25 | 4 | 4 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 21 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 34 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 40 | 3 | — | — | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | 8 | — | — | — | 18 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 56 |

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—ABOUT 20TH. FEBRUARY, 1891.

entirely with the Mortality of your district, as divided into localities, showing the deaths from each disease. The second, or Table B, enumerates the Births in the City and the cases of Infectious sickness notified to me.

These Tables may be briefly analysed as follows :—

TABLE A.—Deaths.

*Scarlet Fever* caused 3 deaths during the year, one of which occurred at the Isolation Hospital.

*Diphtheria* is accountable for three deaths out of 7 cases of sickness notified—a most satisfactory diminution. All were of a mild type.

*Membranous Croup* caused three deaths, all under 5 years of age.

*Typhoid* is notified as causing 1 death. This was an imported case.

*Measles* caused no less than 16 deaths, all of which occurred in about six weeks.

*Whooping Cough* has not resulted fatally in a single instance, whereas last year the number of deaths was 13.

To *Diarrhœa and Dysentry* 5 deaths are attributable.

*Rheumatic Fever* is accountable for 3 deaths.

*Influenza* is credited with 5 deaths.

*Phthisis* is notified as causing 34 deaths.

*Bronchitis, Pneumonia,* and *Pleurisy* were fatal in 51 cases.

*Heart Disease* shows a substantial decrease, viz., 25 deaths as compared with 51 last year.

*Injuries* point to 25 deaths.

*Senility and all other Diseases* are accountable for 205 deaths.

TABLE B.—Sickness.

*Scarlet Fever* is notified to me as numbering 65 cases—14 less than last year—nearly all assumed a mild type.

*Diphtheria* also assumed a much more mild type ; only 7 cases were notified, whereas last year there were 28. This speaks highly for the purity of the water and the sanitary state of the City generally.

*Membranous Croup* showed in four cases, of which three proved fatal. Some of these were allied to Diphtheria.

*Typhoid* and *Enteric Fever* show five cases, four of which recovered.

*Erysipelas* is responsible for eight cases, but neither proved fatal.

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I beg to report further as follows :—

*Measles.*—I had hoped to have been able to record an exceptionally low rate of mortality from Zymotic Diseases this year, but towards the end of October and during November and December we were visited with a severe epidemic of Measles which in a short space of time resulted in 16 deaths. I did the utmost in my power to cope with the disease in seeing that every possible precaution was taken to prevent further contagion.

This disease, though very infectious, is not notifiable to me under existing regulations, so that the difficulties of coping with it are rendered much greater. In many cases the Death Returns are the first intimation I receive of the presence of the disease. Some of the deaths were allied to Scarlet Fever.

Closing of Schools.—Owing to the epidemic of Measles above referred to, I found it necessary to advise the closing of all the public Elementary Schools for a longer period than usual.

Infectious Diseases Hospital.—During the year it will be observed 39 cases of Scarlet Fever and one case of Diphtheria were treated at the Tupsley Hospital, and only two deaths occurred there. The facilities afforded by the Hospital are more than ever apparent; it has proved itself of great benefit to the public during the past year in the reception and treatment of cases of infectious disease. One matter requiring particular notice from me is the fact that two cases of Diphtheria occurred in the City where proper isolation could not be relied upon. I advised their removal, but the Medical Officer at the Tupsley Hospital declined (and properly so) to admit them, as there was not a separate ward for the treatment of such cases, and the Hospital at the time being full of Scarlet Fever patients. The provision of such additional accommodation is, I respectfully submit, a matter for your serious consideration.

St. Owen's Improvement Scheme.—I am glad to note the energies put forth by your Corporation to bring about another great improvement in the City, viz., the doing away with the worst of the slums of the St. Owen's district, where little or no ventilation is given. The houses are of the worst class, a lot

of old overcrowded buildings without proper air-space or light, occupied by the worst class of people, principally tramps, rag and bone collectors, and migratory hop-pickers; just the places where infectious disease is always to be found. The improvement of this district will be a boon to the public, as it is bound to affect the health of the whole neighbourhood, which has now become a very populous one. I have strongly advocated this course for many years, and am sorry that the Council cannot see their way clear to take a similar course in other parts of the City, in not only pulling down and rooting out more of these overcrowded and ill-ventilated areas, but also by providing new and improved dwellings in lieu thereof.

I have made several surveys of the areas proposed to be dwelt with, and have had no hesitation in condemning the properties as unfit for human habitation, and their removal to be a sanitary necessity.

Analysis of Water.—The quality of the water supplied to the ratepayers from the City Water Works still maintains its usual character for purity and excellence, as shown by an analysis made the 31st day of December, 1897, as follows :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total solids per gallon | ... | ... | 6 grains |
| Degrees of Hardness ... | ... | ... | 6 only |
| Albuminoid Ammonia... | ... | . . | none |
| Organic Oxydisable Matter | ... | ... | a trace |

Colour bright, and free from smell or taste.

General.—It has been my pleasure in my Annual Reports for the past twenty-three years to comment upon the steadily increasing sanitary advantages which this City enjoys from the arrangements made, and the improvements effected, for the health of its people.

It again affords me pleasure to record the fact that your City Corporation has during the past year continued to provide every means in their power to maintain the high reputation the City and neighbourhood possess as a healthy district.

Many of the matters dealt with more fully in your Inspector's Report, and ably carried out by him, have come under my notice, and where necessary I have personally attended to nuisances or cases of infectious disease, and seen that every precaution has been taken to prevent contagion and to secure proper disinfection. Reports as to the health of the City and matters taken up by me have during the year been periodically presented to you.

In conclusion, I am glad to say that at the close of the year there is nothing further of sanitary import requiring special

notice, the epidemic of measles having subsided, and the public schools re-opened on January 3rd.

The general health of the City is, therefore, now highly satisfactory.

Attached to this Report will be found a statement of the work carried out during the past year by the Inspector of Nuisances, Mr James Taylor.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

H. V. SANDFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

# HEREFORD URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

## REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1897.

Sir,—

I have to-day to submit my Annual Report.

During the past year 179 complaints have been received at the office, and over 2,000 inspections were made. 237 formal notices were served, and 383 letters have been written requiring the execution of works and the abatement of nuisances.

Nine summonses have been issued, viz., 2 by P.C. Ovens (for adulteration) and 7 by myself. In 3 cases the defendants were convicted and fined, 5 summonses were withdrawn on the execution of the works required and payment of costs, and 1 case was dismissed.

The following is an outline of the work done :—

The circumstances attending the outbreak of 76 cases of infectious disease have been investigated and reported to you. The preceding year there were 106 cases notified, and the year before that 229, so that the continued diminution in the number of cases notified is very satisfactory.

Arrangements were made for the removal of 41 cases to the City Hospital, and 46 premises were disinfected. In 1896, with a larger number of cases reported, only 29 were removed to the Hospital. This, I think, shows the increasing popularity of that institution.

During the year 39 samples have been forwarded for analysis, viz., 11 by Inspector Burden, 12 by P.C. Ovens, and 16 by myself.

Two hundred and nineteen nuisances, caused by defective drains, have been abated. To 31 premises new drains have been provided : 10 disconnecting chambers or traps, 14 ventilating shafts, and 17 flushing cisterns have been fixed.

Thirty dilapidated houses have been repaired, and the yards

of 59 repaved. An improved water supply has been provided to 70, and 14 new water closets have been fixed.

Forty-three nuisances were abated by the removal of offensive accumulations, and 5 cases of overcrowding dealt with.

Thirty-one cases of water waste, and 17 street nuisances, or dangerous buildings, were reported to the City Surveyor.

There are now on the registers 35 dairies and milkshops, 6 private slaughter houses, 33 bakehouses, and 8 common lodging houses. The license of one lodging house has been withdrawn during the year.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES TAYLOR, Mem. San. Inst.

Guildhall, Hereford,
January 20th, 1898.

# HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Population (Census 1891)*, 16,942.

*Parishes*, 42.

*Area in Acres*, 70,974.

Hereford, January 1st, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—

In the following Report, I adhere to the plan adopted for the past twenty-three years, of first stating the number of births and deaths, and then of particularizing the causes of the deaths. in your respective localities.

The total number of births in 1897 was 318, giving a birth-rate of about 18·6 per 1,000.

The deaths numbered 219, including those which occurred in the Burghill Asylum, giving a death-rate of about 12·8 per 1,000 of the population.

Deducting the 23 deaths which took place in the County Asylum, as not being included in the population proper of your Union District, we have a total of 196 deaths in the year—or a rate of mortality of about 11·5 per 1,000.

I reproduce the table showing the number of deaths and the rate of mortality in 1875 (when I first issued such a report), followed by similar figures in relation to the last two censuses, and by those for 1897 also. The figures afford a correct estimate of the general advance in sanitation which has taken place during the twenty-four years that I have had the honour of holding the appointment of Medical Officer of Health.

## HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Table showing the Number of Deaths in each Year for the Last Twenty Three Years, ending December 31st, 1897, from the Eight Chief Zymotic Diseases, including those in the Asylum:—

| Year. | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric, Typhoid or Continued Fever. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | ... | 1 | 7 | 1 | 3 | ... | 6 | 8 | 26 |
| 1876... | ... | 6 | 45 | ... | 12 | ... | 3 | 13 | 79 |
| 1877... | ... | 1 | 11 | 3 | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | 19 |
| 1878... | ... | 3 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | 7 | 14 |
| 1879... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | 7 | ... | 1 | 3 | 17 |
| 1880... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | ... | ... | 4 | 10 | 18 |
| 1881... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 6 |
| 1882... | ... | 19 | 18 | 3 | 6 | ... | 1 | 1 | 48 |
| 1883... | ... | 5 | 13 | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | 8 | 29 |
| 1884... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 11 | 15 |
| 1885... | ... | 1 | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 8 |
| 1886... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 | ... | 1 | 6 | 16 |
| 1887... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 2 | ... | ... | 3 | 12 |
| 1888... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 6 |
| 1889... | ... | 6 | ... | 3 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| 1890... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 7 | 2 | ... | 1 | 15 |
| 1891... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 1892... | ... | 2 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| 1893... | ... | 2 | 5 | 4 | 4 | ... | ... | 2 | 17 |
| 1894... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| 1895... | ... | 2 | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 1896... | ... | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | ... | ... | 4 | 13 |
| 1897... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 3 | ... | ... | 2 | 10 |

# TABLE A.

*TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year* 1897, *in the Four Sanitary Districts of the Hereford Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (a) | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS FROM CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upw'rds | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membr'nous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Influenza. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
| | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) | (h) | (i) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burghill ... ... | 75 | 14 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 30 | 20 | Under 5 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 9 | — | — | 8 | 19 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 10 | 4 | 29 | 56 |
| Asylum ... ... ... | 23 | — | — | — | 1 | 11 | 11 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 6 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 23 |
| Fownhope ... ... | 74 | 17 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 16 | 32 | Under 5 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | 2 | — | 3 | — | — | 11 | 20 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 27 | 54 |
| Dewchurch ... ... | 47 | 15 | 2 | — | — | 11 | 19 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 3 | — | 1 | 12 | 17 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 10 | 1 | 16 | 30 |
| Total ... ... | 219 | 46 | 10 | 7 | 6 | 68 | 82 | Under 5 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 2 | — | 2 | — | 15 | — | 1 | 31 | 56 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | 8 | 8 | 20 | 31 | 7 | 83 | 163 |

The following Table shows the number of deaths (including those which took place in the Asylum) in the Hereford Rural District Council in each of the years mentioned :—

| | 1875. | 1881. | 1892. | 1893. | 1894. | 1895. | 1896. | 1897. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Deaths | 323 | 239 | 307 | 280 | 251 | 216 | 210 | 219 |
| Rate per 1,000 | 21·3 | 13·6 | 15·9 | 13·1 | 12·0 | 12·8 | 12·3 | 12·8 |

The following Table shows the number of deaths of infants and of children under five years of age, in the Hereford Rural District Council in each of the same years ; and the comparison is still a favourable one :—

| | 1875. | 1881. | 1892. | 1893. | 1894. | 1895. | 1896. | 1897. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total deaths | 69 | 54 | 72 | 74 | 57 | 37 | 44 | 54 |
| Rate per 1,000 | 1·7 | 3·0 | 1·0 | 1·0 | 3·0 | 2·17 | 2·5 | 3·1 |

I append hereto the Tables prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Board. Table A gives the total number of deaths in your District for the year, under the separate localities, setting forth the diseases causing such deaths ; and Table B denotes in a similar form the births and cases of infectious sickness reported to me.

Briefly analysed these Tables show :—

## TABLE A.

*Scarlatina* shows an entire absence of fatal cases, a circumstance unknown for the past four years.

*Diphtheria* is accountable for five deaths, a higher mortality than usual. Nearly all the cases were allied to Croup.

There have been no deaths certified from *Membranous Croup.*

*Whooping Cough* resulted in three deaths only.

*Diarrhœa* and *Dysentery* caused death to two children.

*Erysipelas* occasioned one death in the Asylum.

*Phthisis* was responsible for eight deaths.

*Rheumatic Fever* accounts for two deaths.

*Bronchitis, Pneumonia,* and *Pleurisy* show 35 deaths.

*Influenza* caused 10 deaths.

*Heart Disease* denotes 31 deaths this year.

*Injuries* resulted fatally in eight cases.

*Senility and all other Diseases* are recorded as occasioning 114 deaths.

TABLE B

As to infectious sickness :—

*Scarlet Fever* is notified to me as numbering 27 cases, all of which recovered ; this is a large decrease from last year, when the number was 70 cases.

*Diphtheria* numbered 11 cases, five of which proved fatal.

*Erysipelas* records the notification of six cases.

There were two cases of *Puerperal Fever* and one slight case of *Typhoid Fever* in the Dewchurch district.

---

In continuation of my report I have to add :—

1.—That I have on several occasions during the year made a personal inspection of each district, and I continue to find great sanitary improvements.

2.—It has been necessary for me during the year to advise the closing of six Public Schools for various periods in consequence of an outbreak of Measles and mild Scarlet Fever. In each case disinfection was willingly carried out by the Managers under my instructions.

3.—The Inspector of Nuisances has made house to house visitations, and satisfactorily discharged his duties generally. In matters requiring my personal attention I have made the necessary visits.

4.—I have examined and analysed samples of water from several districts, and instructed your Inspector to take the necessary steps for the provision of proper water where required.

5.—The water provided in the parish of Lugwardine being an old Roman well, it has been submitted to purification, and the well cleaned out and built round so as to prevent pollution. The water is now satisfactory, which will undoubtedly improve the health of the neighbourhood.

6.—I have to point out that the case of Diphtheria at Wellington was sent into this district from Malvern without any precaution being taken ; and as the result of legal proceedings instituted by the Worcestershire Medical Officer of Health, the parties concerned were heavily fined.

7.—The cases of Diphtheria in the Fownhope district are more or less attributable to the excessively damp nature of

# TABLE B.

*TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of Medical Officer of Health during the Year* 1897, *in the Four Sanitary Districts of the Hereford Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | Aged under 5 or over 5. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | |
| | Census 1891. | Estimated to middle of 1894. | | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membr'nous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | | | Smallpox | Scarlatina | Diphtheria | Membr'nous Croup | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal. | Cholera | Erysipelas | | TOTAL. |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Burghill ... ... | 7,408 | 7,500 | 122 | Under 5 | — | 5 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 4 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| County Asylum ... | — | — | — | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Fownhope ... ... | 5,368 | 5,370 | 89 | Under 5 | — | 1 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| Dewchurch ... ... | 4,166 | 4,170 | 107 | Under 5 | — | 9 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 6 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 12 |
| Total ... ... | 16,942 | 17,040 | 318 | Under 5 | — | 15 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 22 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 12 | 4 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 25 |

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—ABOUT 1ST. FEBRUARY, 1891.

the soil, caused by its close proximity to the Rivers Lugg and Wye, which frequently overflow, flooding the cesspools, wells, etc.

8.—I record with pleasure the fact that the past year shows a substantial decrease in cases of Zymotic disease, and the general health of your district at the close of the year is satisfactory, it not being necessary at present to point out any sanitary deficiency.

9.—I append the annual Return of work done by Mr. Fowles, the Inspector of Nuisances.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

H. V. SANDFORD.

Medical Officer of Health.

---

ACCOUNT OF WORK DONE BY MR. FOWLES, INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES, FOR THE YEAR 1897.

| | |
|---|---|
| Offensive Soil Removed ... ... ... ... | 83 |
| Dirty Privies, Pigeots, and Drains ... ... | 110 |
| Offensive Cesspits, Ditches, and Sinks ... ... | 151 |
| Privies Repaired and New Ones Erected ... | 44 |
| Houses Repaired ... ... ... ... ... | 18 |
| Stale Wash Buried ... ... ... ... | 9 |
| Wells Cleaned Out and Repaired ... ... | 13 |
| Houses and Schools Disinfected ... ... ... | 25 |
| | 453 |

FREDERICK FOWLES.

King's Thorne, near Hereford.

# LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Population* (*Census* 1891), 12,615.
*Parishes*, 22.
*Area in Acres*, 48,783.

Hereford,
January 1st, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the sanitary condition of your District.

The following Table shows the ages at which the deaths occurred throughout the Ledbury Rural District Council, including the Workhouse, from January 1st to December 31st, 1897 :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deaths under 1 year of age | | 24 | 32 under 5 years. |
| ,, over 1 year and under 5 years | | 8 | |
| ,, ,, 5 years .. 15 ,, | | 2 | 132 over 5 years. |
| ,, ,, 15 ,, .. 25 ,, | | 3 | |
| ,, ,, 25 ,, ,, 65 ,, | | 51 | |
| ,, ,, 65 ,, and upwards | | 76 | |
| Total of all ages ... ... | | 164 | |

As I have on so many previous occasions given the Annual Death Rates during the period I have held the position of Medical Officer, it will not be necessary now to do more than summarise those statistics, and to invite your attention to the following comparative figures :—The death-rate in the year 1875 was 19·8 per 1,000, in the year 1881 it was 17·6 per 1,000, but in 1891 (new census) it increased to 19·0 per 1,000. This year 1897, the deaths and births (including the urban district) are as follows :—

| District | Deaths | Births |
|---|---|---|
| Ledbury Rural ... ... ... ... | 88 ... | 167 |
| ,, Urban ... ... .. ... | 39 ... | 86 |
| ,, Workhouse .. ... .. | 20 ... | 4 |
| Yarkhill ... ... ... ... ... | 56 ... | 95 |
| | 203 | 352 |

These figures calculated upon an estimated population in 1891 of 12,620 give a death-rate of 16·08 per 1,000 and a birth-rate of 27·8 per 1,000.

I produce as hitherto the Table giving the number of deaths from Zymotic Disease since 1875.

## LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Table showing the Number of Deaths in each Year for the Last Twenty-three Years, ending December 31st, 1897, from the Eight Chief Zymotic Diseases, including those in the Workhouse:—

| Year. | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric, Typhoid or Continued Fever. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 1876... | ... | 1 | 10 | 5 | 4 | ... | ... | 4 | 24 |
| 1877... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | ... | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| 1878... | ... | ... | 7 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 11 |
| 1879... | ... | 3 | ... | 5 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| 1880... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| 1881... | ... | ... | 1 | 8 | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | 12 |
| 1882... | 1 | ... | 8 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 15 |
| 1883... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 10 | ... | 1 | 4 | 18 |
| 1884... | ... | 9 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 | 4 | 16 |
| 1885... | ... | 9 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 | 15 |
| 1886... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 1887... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 | 4 | 9 |
| 1888... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 | ... | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| 1889... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 4 | ... | ... | 2 | 8 |
| 1890... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | 4 | 7 |
| 1891... | ... | 8 | 4 | 9 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 22 |
| 1892... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| 1893... | ... | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | ... | 2 | 5 | 17 |
| 1894... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | ... | 4 | 9 |
| 1895... | ... | ... | 4 | 4 | 8 | ... | 2 | 3 | 21 |
| 1896.. | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 6 | ... | ... | 5 | 13 |
| 1897... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 5 |

I also give the Tables in accordance with the regulations of the Local Government Board. The following is a brief analysis of these Tables, which do not include the particulars relating to the Tedbury Urban District :—

TABLE A

Gives the Deaths in each District under the head of various Diseases.

*Scarlet Fever* caused 2 deaths in the Yarkhill district.

*Diphtheria* is set down as having caused one death, and that in the Yarkhill district.

There were no deaths from *Enteric* and *Typhoid Fever*, which is most satisfactory.

*Whooping Cough* was fatal in one case only, as against six last year.

*Diarrhœa* and *Dysentery* terminated fatally in one case only.

*Rheumatic Fever* caused the death of three adults.

*Phthisis* is set down as having caused nine deaths, all of the sufferers were over five years of age.

*Influenza* was the cause of seven deaths.

*Heart Disease* was responsible for 14 deaths.

*Bronchitis, Pneumonia,* and *Pleurisy* numbered 26 fatal cases.

*Injuries,* principally from accidents, resulted in four deaths.

Old age and all other diseases accounted for 96 deaths.

TABLE B.

The following are the cases of Infectious sickness notified to me :—

*Scarlet Fever* was given as the cause of 44 cases of illness; two only proved fatal.

*Diphtheria* records 16 cases as compared with six last year, but they were of a very mild character.

*Typhoid Fever* was reported in three cases of a mild type, all recovering.

*Erysipelas* occurred in two cases, both being of a senile nature.

# TABLE A.

*TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year* 1897, *in the Ledbury Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS FROM CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards | | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membr'nous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Influenza. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
| *(a)* | *(b)* | *(c)* | *(d)* | *(e)* | *(f)* | *(g)* | *(h)* | *(i)* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ledbury Rural District | 88 | 17 | 5 | — | 3 | 22 | 41 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | 16 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 3 | 33 | 66 |
| Workhouse ... ... | 20 | — | — | — | — | 5 | 15 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 5 | — | — | 14 | 20 |
| Yarkhill ... ... | 56 | 7 | 3 | 2 | — | 24 | 20 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 10 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 26 | 46 |
| | | | | | | | | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | 164 | 24 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 51 | 76 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | 23 | 32 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 7 | 9 | 21 | 14 | 4 | 73 | 132 |

# TABLE B.

*TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of Medical Officer of Health during the Year* 1897, *in the Three Sanitary Districts of the Ledbury Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. Census 1891. | Estimated to middle of 1894. | Registered Births. | Aged under 5 or over 5. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. 1 Smallpox. | 2 Scarlatina. | 3 Diphtheria. | 4 Membr'nous Croup. | FEVERS: 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid. | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera. | 11 Erysipelas. | 12 | 13 | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. 1 Smallpox | 2 Scarlatina | 3 Diphtheria | 4 Membr'nous Croup | FEVERS: 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera | 11 Erysipelas | 12 | 13 TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *(a)* | *(b)* | *(c)* | *(d)* | *(e)* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ledbury Rural... ... | 8,623 | 8,630 | 167 | Under 5 | — | 20 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 22 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 15 | 9 | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 |
| Workhouse ... ... | — | — | 4 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Yarkhill ... ... | 3,992 | 3,990 | 95 | Under 5 | — | 5 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 4 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| | | | | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | 12,615 | 12,620 | 266 | Under 5 | — | 25 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 29 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 19 | 12 | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 36 |

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—ABOUT MARCH 1st, 1891.

I have further to report as follows :—

1.—That the number of deaths from Zymotic diseases is exceedingly low, a proof of the sanitary condition of your district.

2.—The three cases of illness from Typhoid Fever all occurred at Donnington through imperfect drainage, which has now been put right.

3.—The large number of Diphtheria cases, most of which were allied to croup, were principally due to bad water; but this defect has now been remedied.

4.—The prevailing epidemic has been Scarlet Fever, Measles, and Diphtheria, which compelled me to order the closing of four public schools for a time.

5.—A great improvement during the year has been the laying of the Colwall Sewerage Scheme from which considerable benefit must arise.

6.—The whole of the parishes comprising your District have been regularly visited by me, and where necessary I have personally attended to Infectious cases to see that every precaution has been taken to secure proper isolation and disinfection so as to prevent contagion.

7.—I have examined many samples of water from different neighbourhoods, and condemned several that were unfit for consumption.

8.—The health of the District at the close of the year is very satisfactory, most of the public elementary schools being now re-opened.

9.—Your Inspector, Mr Cawsey, has under my direction made the usual house to house surveys and reported regularly to me; annexed is a tabulated statement of work done by him for the year 1897, in addition to which he has superintended the Colwall Sewerage Works and connections, and most efficiently discharged his duties generally.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently

H. V. SANDFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

## STATEMENT OF WORK DONE BY MR. CAWSEY, THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES, IN THE YEAR 1897.

53 Houses whitewashed and disinfected after fever.
15 Houses repaired and cleansed.
17 Houses closed as unfit for habitation.
39 New privies, water closets, and ashpits.
26 New drains put in.
45 Drains repaired.
6 Wells cleaned out.
4 Overcrowded houses.
18 Heaps of refuse and manure removed.

Numerous other sundry nuisances were removed without notice.

THOMAS CAWSEY, A.S.I.C.S.I.,

Inspector of Nuisances.

# BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

———

*Population* (*Census* 1891), 10,562.

*Area in Acres*, 61,659.

Hereford,

January 1st, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—

In presenting you with my Twenty-third Annual Report it gives me pleasure to state that the total number of deaths for 1897 was 147, giving a death-rate (including the Urban District) of 13·8 per 1,000. The births numbered 229, giving a birth-rate of 21·6 per 1,000.

I append hereto my customary Table showing the deaths from Zymotic Disease in each year from 1875, and it will be observed that the number of deaths this year is exceptionally small.

## BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Table showing the Number of Deaths in each Year for the Last Twenty-three Years, ending December 31st, 1897, from the Eight Chief Zymotic Diseases, including those in the Workhouse:—

| Year. | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric, Typhoid or Continued Fever. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 7 | 10 |
| 1876... | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 1877... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 |
| 1878... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| 1879... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| 1880... | ... | 8 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 16 |
| 1881... | ... | ... | 5 | ... | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 12 |
| 1882... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 9 |
| 1883... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | ... | ... | 2 | 6 |
| 1884... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 1885... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 4 |
| 1886... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | 1 | 7 |
| 1887... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| 1888... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 1889... | ... | 6 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| 1890... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 3 | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| 1891... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 1892... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1893... | 3 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| 1894... | ... | 3 | 1 | 1 | 6 | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| 1895... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| 1896... | ... | 3 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| 1897... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

# TABLE A.

*TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year* 1897, *in the Four Sanitary Districts of the Bromyard Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS FROM CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards | | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membr'nous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Influenza. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) | (h) | (i) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bromyard ... ... | 30 | 5 | — | 2 | 2 | 8 | 13 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 25 |
| Workhouse ... ... | 16 | — | — | — | 1 | 5 | 10 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 4 | 2 | — | 8 | 16 |
| Brockhampton ... ... | 39 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 15 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 18 | 32 |
| Bishop Froome ... | 54 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 20 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | — | 12 | 16 |
| Acton Beauchamp ... | 8 | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 7 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 26 | 46 |
| Total ... ... | 147 | 25 | 3 | 4 | 10 | 47 | 58 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 5 | — | 3 | 19 | 28 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 18 | 6 | 69 | 119 |

# TABLE B.

*TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1897, in the Four Sanitary Districts of the Bromyard Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics: public institutions being shown as separate localities. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. Census 1891. | Estimated to middle of 1894. | Registered Births. | Aged under 5 or over 5. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. 1 Smallpox. | 2 Scarlatina. | 3 Diphtheria. | 4 Membr'nous Croup. | FEVERS: 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid. | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera. | 11 Erysipelas. | 12 | 13 | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. 1 Smallpox | 2 Scarlatina | 3 Diphtheria | 4 Membr'nous Croup | FEVERS: 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera | 11 Erysipelas | 12 | 13 TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bromyard ... ... | 3,450 | 3,460 | 60 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 4 | 2 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 12 |
| Workhouse ... ... | — | — | 5 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Brockhampton ... | 3,095 | 3,098 | 75 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| Bishop's Froome ) Acton Beauchamp ( | 3,801) 216) | 4,020 | 84 5 | Under 5 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 5 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| Total ... ... | 10,562 | 10,578 | 229 | Under 5 | — | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 12 | 3 | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | 7 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 26 |

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—ABOUT JUNE, 1891.

I also give the two Tables in accordance with the requires ments of the Local Government Board, viz.:—Table A. setting-forth the deaths from all causes under the different localities Table B. giving in a similar manner the births and cases of Infectious sickness notified to me during the year.

Briefly analysed these Tables give the following results:—

TABLE A.

*Scarlet Fever* did not result in a single death for the second successive year.

*Diphtheria* was accountable for two deaths.

*Rheumatic Fever* coupled with *Cardiac Disease* had a fatal termination in three cases.

*Influenza* caused two deaths.

*Phthisis* is notified as causing 10 deaths.

*Bronchitis*, *Pneumonia*, and *Pleurisy* denote 15 deaths.

*Heart Disease* is responsible for 18 deaths.

*Injuries* were fatal in nine cases.

Old age and all other diseases are answerable for 88 deaths.

TABLE B.

Referring to Table B. or Table of sickness I commence with

*Scarlet Fever*, of which there were 19 cases, compared with 26 last year. Nearly all were of a very mild type and the patients recovered.

*Diphtheria* also in mild form showed in three cases, one of which recovered.

*Erysipelas* numbered seven cases all of a senile type. No death resulted therefrom.

*Typhoid Fever* is notified in four cases, which I refer to below.

———

I beg to report further as follows:—

1.—A systematic inspection of your Rural Sanitary District has been made by me during the year, and I find that most of the sanitary improvements suggested by me have been readily carried out.

2.—I have paid particular attention to isolation and disinfection in cases of an Infectious character, and under my direction your Inspector has taken the necessary steps to prevent contagion.

3.—The District has been comparatively free from Infectious disease, there being a most satisfactory diminution in the number of deaths from this cause, and also in the number of cases of sickness notified to me.

4.—The small increase in the number of deaths was of old people and not from epidemic.

5.—The four cases of Typhoid Fever reported were of a very mild character and all recovered; the one case could not be traced to bad water as the farm is supplied by means of a ram from a lake belonging to Barneby Lutley, Esq., which water when examined I found to be of the purest character.

6.—The water supply in your District has always received my most careful attention, as it is a subject that in Rural Districts especially requires constant supervision and diligence on the part of the Authorities.

7.—Your Inspector has made house to house visitations during the year, resulting in the removal of dangerous nuisances; and he has discharged these duties satisfactorily.

8.—It only remains for me to add that at the close of the year the health of the District was very good.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

H. VAVASOUR SANDFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

---

The following is a schedule of the nuisances, &c., removed during the year 1897 by the Inspector of Nuisances:—

| | |
|---|---|
| New privies erected or repaired ... ... | 5 |
| Defective drains put in order ... ... ... | 1 |
| Overcrowded houses abated ... .. ... | 2 |
| Manure and other offal heaps removed ... | 9 |
| Dilapidated houses repaired and cleansed ... | 3 |
| Houses disinfected and cleansed ... ... | 17 |
| Notices to be complied with ... ... ... | 2 |
| Total ... ... ... ... | 39 |

T. BARRS,

Inspector of Nuisances.

# LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Population* (*Census* 1891), 13,743.

*Area in acres*, 61,316.

Hereford,

January 1st, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—

Pursuant to the Order of the Local Government Board, I present to you my Annual Report for 1897.

I include in it a Table showing the number of deaths in each of the 23 years ending December, 1897, from the eight chief zymotic diseases.

The total number of deaths from all causes for the year was 130, giving a rate of mortality of 9·4 per 1,000 in a population of 13,743. The births numbered 210, giving a rate of 15·2 per 1,000.

## LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Table showing the Number of Deaths in each Year for the Last Twenty-three Years, ending December 31st, 1897, from the Eight Chief Zymotic Diseases:—

| Year. | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric, Typhoid or Continued Fever. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | ... | ... | 4 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 5 | 10 |
| 1876... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 2 | 4 |
| 1877... | .. | ... | 4 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 5 |
| 1878... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 5 | 8 |
| 1879... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 1880... | ... | 2 | 6 | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | 4 | 15 |
| 1881... | ... | ... | 4 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| 1882... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 1883... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 | 5 | ... | ... | 2 | 12 |
| 1884... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 1885... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| 1886... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| 1887... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| 1888... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 1889... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| 1890... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| 1891... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 1892... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 |
| 1893... | ... | 1 | 1 | 5 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 13 |
| 1894... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 1895... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 1896... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 4 |
| 1897... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 3 | ... | 1 | ... | 5 |

# TABLE A.

*TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year* 1897, *in the Four Sanitary Districts of the Leominster Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS FROM CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Influenza. | Phthsis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) | (h) | (i) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leominster ... ... | 31 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 18 | Under 5 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | 5 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | 5 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 26 |
| Kingsland ... ... | 49 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 18 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | 7 | 12 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | — | 2 | 6 | 2 | 22 | 37 |
| Bodenham ... ... | 31 | 2 | 4 | 1 | — | 7 | 17 | Under 5 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 3 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 6 | — | 16 | 25 |
| Little Hereford and Brimfield | 19 | 3 | — | 2 | 1 | 7 | 6 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 11 | 16 |
| Total ... ... | 130 | 17 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 32 | 59 | Under 5 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | 5 | — | 2 | — | — | 14 | 26 |
| | | | | | | | | 5 upwds | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 8 | 1 | 12 | 14 | 4 | 61 | 104 |

# TABLE B.

*TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of Medical Officer of Health during the Year* 1897, *in the Four Sanitary Districts of the Leominster Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics: public institutions being shown as separate localities. | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. | | Registered Births. | Aged under 5 or over 5. | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. | | | | | | | | | | | | NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | |
| (a) | Census 1891. (b) | Estimated to middle of 1894. (c) | (d) | (e) | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membr'nous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | | | Smallpox | Scarlatina | Diphtheria | Membr'nous Croup | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera | Erysipelas | | TOTAL. |
| Leominster ... ... | 5,130 | — | 37 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 7 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 11 |
| Kingsland ... ... | 4,029 | — | 74 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| Bodenham ... ... | 3,599 | — | 70 | Under 5 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| Little Hereford and Brimfield | 425 / 560 | — | 29 | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | 13,743 | — | 210 | Under 5 | — | 6 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 13 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 25 |

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—ABOUT JUNE, 1891.
**There is at present no Hospital to which we can send Infectious Cases for Isolation.**

I also append hereto the Tables prepared for the Government Returns. Table A. shows the deaths from all causes in each separate locality. Table B. gives the particulars of cases of Infectious sickness certified to me under the "Notification of Infectious Diseases Act."

In accordance with my usual practice I will briefly summarise these returns as follows:—

## TABLE A.—DEATHS.

*Scarlet Fever* resulted fatally in one case only.

*Enteric Fever* is accountable for one death.

*Whooping Cough* was the cause of three deaths.

*Phthisis* accounts for only one death this year, as compared with eight last year.

*Bronchitis*, *Pneumonia*, and *Pleurisy* resulted in 14 deaths.

*Rheumatic Fever* is responsible for one death.

*Membranous Croup* resulted fatally in two cases.

*Influenza* is given as causing 13 deaths.

*Heart Disease* denotes 14 deaths.

*Erysipelas* states one death.

*Injuries* record four deaths.

Old age and all other diseases give an aggregate of 75 deaths this year.

## TABLE B.—SICKNESS.

*Scarlet Fever* is notified to me as numbering 19 cases: nearly all were of a mild type.

Of *Diphtheria* cases I received two notifications, compared with five of the previous year; they were both of that mild character, allied to Croup, and recovered.

*Erysipelas* is recorded in ten cases, all of a senile nature, and calling for no special comment. Only one ended fatally.

*Membranous Croup* was reported in two cases.

On matters affecting the health of your District I wish to make the following observations.

1.—The District has been comparatively free from epidemic, it only being necessary to sanction the closing of one public school for a short period.

2.—The increase in the number of deaths is entirely due to an unusual prevalence of Influenza.

3.—I have this year as hitherto regularly visited the parishes comprising your District, and made myself acquainted with any matters of sanitary importance requiring my personal attention.

4.—I record with pleasure the efforts put forth by your Council and special Committee, on the most important subject of the quality of the water used for drinking purposes, as recommended in the circular issued by the Local Government Board. I have received samples for analysis from Orleton, Yarpole, Monkland, Kingsland, Bircher, Richard's Castle, and other places ; some of the samples were good others were condemned. This praiseworthy action of your Board is one of vital importance to the general community, and good results must necessarily follow.

5.—The usual house to house inspections have been well carried out by the Inspector, resulting in the abatement or removal of numerous nuisances.

6.—The health of your District at the close of the year was very satisfactory.

7.—I append the Return of Work done by the Inspector of Nuisances during the year under review.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

H. V. SANDFORD.

Medical Officer of Health.

## WORK DONE BY INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FOR THE YEAR 1897.

| | |
|---|---|
| Drains cleaned out and repaired ... ... ... | 28 |
| Pumps and wells repaired ... ... ... ... | 18 |
| Privies erected and repaired ... ... ... | 7 |
| Privy cesspools cleaned out ... ... ... | 4 |
| Houses disinfected and cleansed ... ... ... | 15 |
| Dilapidated houses repaired ... ... ... | 6 |
| Schools disinfected ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Pigs' cots removed ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Overcrowding abated ... ... ... ... | 5 |
| Offensive ditches cleaned out ... ... ... | 2 |
| | 90 |

J. T. STEPHENS,
Inspector of Nuisances.

Kingsland, January 7th, 1898.

# WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Population (Census* 1891), 7,144.

*Area in Acres*, 48,959.

Hereford, January 1st, 1898.

GENTLEMEN,—

In accordance with my custom in previous annual reports, and in conformity with the Standing Orders of the Local Government Board, I beg to submit to your Authority tabulated forms of deaths and of cases of infectious sickness which have taken place in the Weobley District during the year 1897. Table A classifies the deaths according to diseases, ages, and localities; and Table B enumerates in the same way those cases of sickness which have been notified to me.

The total deaths from all causes numbered 122, which is a death-rate of 16·4 per 1,000 of population. The births during 1897 numbered 205, or a rate of 27·6 per 1,000.

During the decade of 1881-91 the population in the Weobley district decreased by no fewer than 423, and in the Dilwyn District by 312. As these two districts constitute the Weobley Urban Sanitary Authority, the total population was therefore reduced 765.

The following Table shows the ages at which the deaths occurred during the past year throughout the Weobley Union, inclusive of the Workhouse:—

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deaths under 1 year of age | ... | | | | | 18 | 22 under 5 years. | |
| „ over 1 | „ | and under 5 years | | | | 4 | | |
| „ „ 5 | „ | „ | 15 | „ | 5 | 100 over 5 years. | | |
| „ „ 15 | „ | „ | 25 | „ | 7 | | | |
| „ „ 25 | „ | „ | 65 | „ | 32 | | | |
| „ „ 65 and upwards | | | | | 56 | | | |
| Total of all ages | ... | | | | | 122 | | |

It will be seen from the annexed table of mortality from the eight chief zymotic diseases that there are nine deaths recorded as resulting from the diseases in question.

## WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Table showing the Number of Deaths in each Year for the Last Twenty-three Years, ending December 31st, 1897, from the Eight Chief Zymotic Diseases:—

| Year. | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric, Typhoid or Continued Fever. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1875... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 1876... | ... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | 9 |
| 1877... | ... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 6 |
| 1878... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 11 |
| 1879... | ... | ... | 3 | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 9 |
| 1880... | ... | ... | 6 | 7 | ... | ... | 1 | 4 | 18 |
| 1881... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 |
| 1882... | ... | 9 | 16 | ... | 5 | ... | 1 | 2 | 33 |
| 1883... | ... | ... | 7 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 9 |
| 1884... | ... | ... | 3 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| 1885... | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 5 |
| 1886... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | 5 | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| 1887... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 2 |
| 1888... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 4 |
| 1889... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| 1890... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 7 | ... | ... | 1 | 10 |
| 1891... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| 1892... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 1893... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 1894... | ... | 4 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 7 |
| 1895... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 1896... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| 1897... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | ... | ... | 4 | 9 |

As in former years, I will proceed to briefly analyse the two Tables above referred to

TABLE A.

*Scarlet Fever* is set down as causing 1 death only.

*Diphtheria* caused 1 death in the Dilwyn District.

*Whooping Cough* was fatal in two cases.

*Measles* caused one death.

*Rheumatic Fever* resulted in one death.

*Diarrhœa and Dysentry* were fatal in 4 infantile cases.

*Phthisis* is recorded as having resulted in four deaths.

*Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy,* and *Influenza* ended fatally in 12 cases, as against 20 for the previous year.

*Heart Disease* was accountable for 24 deaths.

*Injuries* caused one death.

*Senility and all other Diseases* give an aggregate of 71 deaths.

TABLE B.

*Scarlet Fever* was notified to me as affecting 33 patients, but nearly all the cases were of a mild nature, only one death ensuing.

*Diphtheria* showed in four cases, of which one died.

---

The following matters require comment from me :—

1. There was an epidemic of Scarlet Fever during the year, 33 cases being notified to me, as against 21 last year : the one death that resulted took place in the Workhouse. Considering the absence of any Isolation Hospital in the District, this is a fortunate result, and reflects credit upon the measures taken to prevent contagion and to secure proper disinfection.

2. I found it expedient to close the Weobley Schools for a short period owing to Scarlet Fever and Measles.

3. Diphtheria cases are still frequent in the Dilwyn District, the result, I think, of inefficient drainage in a low-lying neighbourhood.

4. The special drainage system at Weobley has turned out a complete success.

# TABLE A.

*TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year* 1897, *in the Weobley Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. | | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES. | | | | | | | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS FROM CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FEVERS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | At all ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5. | 5 and under 15. | 15 and under 25. | 25 and under 65. | 65 and upwards | | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Typhus. | Enteric or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhœa and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Influenza. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
| | | (b) | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) | (h) | (i) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weobley ... ... | Under 5 | 67 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 23 | 22 | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 14 |
| | 5 upwds | | | | | | | | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 1 | 27 | 53 |
| Workhouse ... ... | Under 5 | 11 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 9 | | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | 5 upwds | | | | | | | | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 8 | 10 |
| Dilwyn ... ... ... | Under 5 | 44 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 25 | | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 7 |
| | 5 upwds | | | | | | | | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | 11 | — | 21 | 37 |
| | Under 5 | | | | | | | | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 5 upwds | | | | | | | | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | Under 5 | 122 | 18 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 32 | 56 | | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 15 | 22 |
| | 5 upwds | | | | | | | | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 24 | 1 | 56 | 100 |

# TABLE B.

*TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of Medical Officer of Health during the Year* 1897, *in the Three Sanitary Districts of the Weobley Rural District Council, classified according to* DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

| NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (a) | POPULATION AT ALL AGES. Census 1891. (b) | Estimated to middle of 1894. (c) | Registered Births. (d) | Aged under 5 or over 5. (e) | NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. 1 Smallpox. | 2 Scarlatina. | 3 Diphtheria. | 4 Membr'nous Croup. | FEVERS: 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid. | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal | 10 Cholera. | 11 Erysipelas. | 12 | 13 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Weobley ... ... | 4,412 | — | 114 | Under 5 | — | 16 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 14 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Workhouse ... ... | — | — | 2 | Under 5 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dilwyn ... ... ... | 3,002 | — | 89 | Under 5 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | Under 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... | 7,414 | — | 205 | Under 5 | — | 18 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | | | | 5 upwds | — | 15 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

| NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL. 1 Smallpox | 2 Scarlatina | 3 Diphtheria | 4 Membr'nous Croup | FEVERS: 5 Typhus. | 6 Enteric or Typhoid | 7 Continued. | 8 Relapsing. | 9 Puerperal. | 10 Cholera | 11 Erysipelas | 12 | 13 Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 16 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 14 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 19 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 18 |

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes. Since when?—ABOUT JUNE, 1890.

**There is at present no Hospital to which we can send Infectious Cases for Isolation.**

5. I have examined several samples of water submitted to me, and found the one from Byford Schools quite satisfactory.

6. The whole of the parishes comprising your District have been periodically visited by me, and where necessary I have made special journeys to personally inspect cases of an infectious nature, and to give instructions as to the removal of nuisances, &c.

7. Your Inspectors have made the usual house to house visitations, resulting in the removal or abatement of nuisances injurious to the public health.

8. At the close of the year the general health of the District was good.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

H. V. SANDFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

---

## RETURN OF WORK DONE BY MR. LLOYD, INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FOR THE WEOBLEY DISTRICT, IN 1897.

| | |
|---|---|
| Common nuisances ... ... ... ... ... | 37 |
| Overcrowding ... .. ... ... ... | 2 |
| Water bad .. ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Houses unfit ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| | 47 |

---

## RETURN OF WORK DONE BY MR. THOMAS VAUGHAN, INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FOR THE DILWYN DISTRICT, IN 1897.

| | |
|---|---|
| Scarlet fever, cases disinfected ... ... ... | 3 |
| Diphtheria ditto ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Bad drains repaired ... ... ... ... ... | 23 |
| Closets repaired and cleansed .. ... ... | 3 |
| Dilapidated houses ... ... ... ... | 3 |
| Pigstyes as nuisances and foldyard manure ... | 6 |
| Other places inspected and reported ... ... | 48 |
| | 89 |

# APPENDIX.

# PRECAUTIONS

## TO BE OBSERVED DURING ANY THREATENED OUTBREAK OF CHOLERA AND OTHER EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

BY

## DR. VAVASOUR SANDFORD, M.O.H.

## SANITARY HINTS.

Pure Drinking Water.—Avoid, as far as you can, every water which can even be *suspected* of contamination with the filth from sewers, house drains, privies, cesspools, and the like. See that cisterns and water butts are clean, especially that the overflow pipes do not open direct into any drain. Water should be clear, colourless, and without smell. Water can only be really tested by a difficult and careful analysis. Drinking-water is the better for being filtered. During epidemic of typhoid fever or cholera, the water should be boiled before filtration. A costless filter may be thus made:—Take a flower-pot and plug the hole, not too tightly, with a piece of sponge; add a layer of powdered animal charcoal about one inch thick, then the same quantity of clean sand, and on that some coarse gravel. The charcoal should be occasionally re-baked, or washed with Condy's Fluid.

Drains, Closets, &c.—Flush, and, if possible, scrub and cleanse once daily with plenty of water, containing some disinfectant, such as crude sulphate of iron, chloride of zinc, carbolic acid, or Cooper's Patent Salts. See that the traps are well

charged with water, that they do not allow bad smells to escape in the house, and that the main house drain is ventilated by the rain water pipe, by charcoal air filters, or otherwise. The pan of every W.C. ought to have a tube or shaft attached to the soil pipe just below the trap of the pan; this tube out to be carried rather above the roof or outside the house, nor near any window or water cistern. A four-inch zinc pipe will answer every requirement, and allow the escape of gases which may generate or be driven in the soil pipe from a main sewer or cesspool in which the soil empties. This will prevent any person using the W.C. from inhaling, and being poisoned by, such gas, when the pan has been used, and the handle is being pulled up for flushing, cleansing, and emptying.

Ash and Privy Pits.—Cover, so as to keep them dry, well drain, thoroughly spread over with ashes or dry earth, frequently emptied, sprinkle with a disinfecting powder—McDougall's or Cooper's—and be careful that no slops are thrown. Decaying animal and vegetable refuse are sources of danger, and should be buried or dug into the earth away from houses. Remove all pigs, poultry, and rabbits some distance from living rooms.

Ventilation.—Keep rooms and passages sweet by opening doors and windows for the admission of air. Fires greatly promote ventilation. Overcrowding is exceedingly dangerous. Whenever possible, 500 cubic feet of air breathing space should be allowed to each individual in any sitting-room, bedroom, or work-room. Gas lights contaminate the air very rapidly. Pure air is less dependent on cubic space than on efficient ventilation, which may be secured by the following simple and economical method:—Raise the lower sash of the window two or three inches, and fill in the opening underneath the bottom rail with a piece of wood; this leaves a corresponding space between the meeting rails in the middle of the window, through which a current of air enters and is directed towards the ceiling, whence it should escape by a valvular opening. The fewer persons and things in a sick room the better. Beds should be freely exposed to the air during the day, and soiled linen should not be kept waiting for washing in unventilated closets.

Clothing, Food, &c.—While warmth is kept up, transpiration should be free; in summer and autumn a broad flannel bandage should be worn round the abdomen, and the linen should be constantly changed. The food should be plain, fresh, wholesome, and sufficient, avoiding intemperance in both eating and drinking. Bodily weakness favours cholera, typhus, typhoid, and other fever—therefore, avoid exhaustion, over-fatigue, and fear, as much as possible. Milk, rice, meat, soups, potatoes, beans, pea-meal, bacon, entire wheaten bread, and cheese, are the cheapest

nourishing articles of food. One of the most frequent causes of the early death of young children is improper feeding. The proper food of children is breast milk. When the mother and the child are both healthy, no other food is required for the first six months. When the child is first born no food is required, and the practice of giving gruel, butter, honey, and castor oil to new-born babes is prejudicial to their health. When the mother has a deficiency of milk, cow's milk or Swiss milk is the best substitute. It should be given with a third of warm water and a little sugar. For the first six weeks the child should be suckled every two hours in the day, and every three or four hours at night. Gradually, as it gets older, the intervals of feeding may be prolonged. Children should not be fed to keep them quiet, but at regular intervals. Mothers should never fall asleep when suckling their babes, as this is one of the most frequent causes of suffocation in bed. A child should not be weaned suddenly, but by degrees, and ought not to have the breast after the ninth month. When the child has cut its front teeth it may have some light food, such as bread, baked finely, ground wheaten flour, or milk biscuits, added to its milk, or "Liebig Food" and once a day meat broth or beef tea with bread or biscuits in it; or the yolk of an egg lightly boiled. When it is a year and a half old, some fine chopped meat may be added—but milk should form the principal part of its food. Solid meat and potatoes, fat pork and fish, which form the food of grown-up people, should on no account be given to children.

The Sick Room.—Keep sweet by a small fire and a plentiful supply of fresh air, as above described. Remove bed curtains, window hangings, and carpets. Sweep rooms daily, and let the floor be frequently rubbed with a damp cloth, or dry rubbed, and when necessary chloride of lime or acetic acid should be sprinkled from time to time on the floors. Keep within reach of the patient a basin charged with disinfectant for him to spit into, and have close at hand a tub or pail of diluted disinfecting fluid, into which should be immediately thrown any article of clothing removed from the patient. Instead of a pocket handkerchief, use small pieces of rag, to be burnt immediately after use. A piece of mackintosh sheeting, placed beneath the sheet or blanket of a bed, prevents discharge soaking through. A teacup full of green copperas solution, 2lbs. to a gallon, put into a night pan before it is used by the patient renders the discharge harmless. Matters discharged from the body should be received in a vessel containing active disinfectants, such as about half a pint of either of the following solutions:—2lbs. of sulphate of iron in a gallon of water; one quart of chloride of zinc to three quarts of water; or four fluid ounces of carbolic acid (Calvert's No. 5) to a gallon of water. Glasses, cups, and other utensils of the sick room, should be

cleansed before they are used by other persons. Hang, outside door of room, a sheet or old counterpane, and keep it moistened with some disinfecting fluid.

Infected Clothing and Bedding.—Soiled linen, bedding, and such woollen articles as admit of washing, should, on being removed from the patient, be plunged into boiling water before they are taken from the room, and, in addition, for an hour or two, into a tub of solution of four fluid ounces of carbolic acid (Calvert's No. 5) to a gallon of water. After this they can be boiled and washed. Cloth clothes, mattresses, beds, pillows, &c. (in the absence of a proper public disinfecting establishment, which should be so constructed that its temperature can be well regulated and maintained at from 240 deg. to 250 deg. Fahr. for four or five hours), should be disinfected by smoking with brimstone, exposure in the open air, to the sun, if possible, or, if raining, in front of a large fire. Washing and lime-whiting of premises should be attended to periodically.

The Patient.—Separate the sick person from the healthy as soon as possible. In cases of scarlet fever, on the seventh and eighth days, anoint the surface of the body twice a day with camphorated lard or palm oil, or wash with diluted Condy's Fluid. When the patient is sufficiently strong, let him take a warm bath, and afterwards be well washed with carbolic acid soap water. During a week or ten days from this time he may be kept apart, repeating every two or three days the disinfecting ablutions; after which he can, with safety, mix again with his family. Scarlet fever and small-pox seldom spread beyond the sick-room when separation and disinfection have been properly used. Whenever children have sore throats or an eruption on the skin, they should be separated from the rest of the family until they have had medical advice, or those symptoms have disappeared. Measles and whooping cough are contagious, and cases should be more carefully isolated and nursed than is usually done. In the event of death early burial is very desirable. Powdered charcoal, 2lb., Cooper Patent Salts, good Carbolate Powder, or sawdust nearly saturated with a solution of chloride of sulphate of zinc, placed in the coffin, retards decomposition and putrefaction, or takes away offensive smells by absorbing noxious gases.

Nurses and Attendants.—Woollen dresses are to be avoided, and preference given to washing materials. Prevent contact, as much as possible, between attendants and inmates of the house. After handling the sick, or things connected with them, let the nurse be careful immediately to wash her hands in diluted Condy's Fluid, or with carbolic acid soap.

Disinfectants.—For *Nuisance Prevention*, as detected by the nose test, those most generally used are Chloride of Lime, Cooper's Salts, Condy's Fluid, Burnett's Liquid, Chloralum, Carbolic Acid, and its compounds. Chloride of Lime and Chloride require care and experience in management; when used too freely in inhabited rooms, they give rise to irritation of the lungs and air passages. Burnett's Liquid and Carbolic Acid are most efficacious, but are poisonous, and the latter possesses a very strong smell, which to many persons is extremely offensive. Ten pounds of sulphate of iron, five gallons of water, and half a pint of common carbolic acid, form a good and cheap disinfectant for drains. Iodine, volatilized on a heated surface, is an excellent disinfectant, but is expensive. Carbolic Acid, Chlorozone, or Condy's Fluid improve the air when diffused by means of a large brush, a scent spray, or the hydronette syringe with rose. For *Infection Prevention*, disinfectants should be thorough—not diluted—applied in considerable strength; while the room is occupied by the living it is impossible to use volatile or aerial disinfectants in such quantity as to be of real service. When the room is vacated, to disinfect thoroughly, close the windows, stop up the chimney and every aperture and outlet from the room, and use sulphur in the proportion of 1½ oz. for every 100 cubic feet of space. The sulphur may be safely burnt in a shallow pipkin or coarse earthenware saucer containing some live coals or coke; the saucer should be supported on a pair of tongs laid across a pail of water, so that in case of accident the burning sulphur may fall into the water and do no injury. The room should be closed for twelve hours—then the wall papers should be removed, stripped off and burnt: the walls, ceiling, floor, painted parts of the room, and articles of furniture washed with a solution of carbolic acid, and the ceiling and walls limewashed. The room should be unoccupied and freely open to the external air for a fortnight, if possible; for plenty of fresh air is the truest, best, and cheapest disinfectant.

Vaccination.—Every child should be vaccinated before the third month; if delayed beyond that period, it may increase the irritation of teething. Skin rashes are often erroneously said to be caused by vaccination. All persons should be re-vaccinated after eight years of age—and when Small-Pox prevails in a family or neighbourhood.

Clergymen, medical practitioners, Scripture readers, and other persons interested in sanitary reform, living in the district, are invited to inform the Medical Officer of Health, and the Sanitary Inspectors, of any nuisances which they discover in their neighbourhood—such communications to be considered strictly confidential. Every ratepayer has a right of complaint,

and it is only by such co-operation that Sanitary Officers have a power of remedying nuisances and of checking the ravages of epidemic disease.

As a further precaution, I would observe, if cholera or diarrhœa of a malignant type shows cramp or spasms, that five drops of spirit of camphor in a tablespoonful of hot new milk should be taken every hour, or oftener if severe cramp or pain sets in.